

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~[[M]]~~monolithic optical component ~~[[400]]~~ comprising:  
a light-absorbing layer ~~[[7]]~~,  
a waveguide ~~[[2]]~~ coupled evanescently with the said light-absorbing layer ~~[[7]]~~, such waveguide having one end coupled with an input facet ~~[[12]]~~ of the component to receive an input wave, and  
the component ~~[[400]]~~ being characterized in that the input face ~~[[12]]~~ is convex~~[[13]]~~.
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[O]]~~optical component ~~[[400]]~~ according to claim 1, characterized in that the input face ~~[[12]]~~ has the shape ~~[[13]]~~ of a cylindrical diopter with generators perpendicular to the plane of the light-absorbing layer ~~[[7]]~~.
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[O]]~~optical component ~~[[400]]~~ according to claim 2, characterized in that the radius of curvature of the cylindrical diopter is of the order of 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .
4. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[O]]~~optical component ~~[[400]]~~ according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 3]]~~, characterized in that it comprises a photodiode ~~[[6]]~~ incorporating the light-absorbing layer ~~[[7]]~~.
5. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[O]]~~optical component ~~[[400]]~~ according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 4]]~~, characterized in that the waveguide ~~[[2]]~~ is a diluted waveguide.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[O]]~~optical component ~~[[400]]~~ according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 5]]~~, characterized in that the waveguide ~~[[2]]~~ comprises at least:  
a first InP layer ~~[[403]]~~,  
an InGaAsP layer ~~[[404]]~~ deposited on the first InP layer, and  
a second InP ~~[[405]]~~ layer deposited on the InGaAsP layer.